

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Process for high speed metal strip electroplating ~~wherein~~ comprising:

plating the strip ~~is plated~~ by anodically dissolving tin anodes facing the strip into an electroplating solution, and depositing said anodically dissolved tin on at least part of the strip acting as cathode,

wherein ~~that~~ tin is supplied to the electroplating solution in the form of pellets held in an anode basket, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein part of the tin anodes is masked out using adjustable masking means ~~that are~~ controlled and guided dependent on strip width and/or tin coating thickness distribution.

2. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the masking means comprise a shutter or blind.

3. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein the pellets are electrically contacted via a current collector made of a material with a low electrical resistance allowing for good electrical contact with the tin pellets and being electrochemically inert in the electrolyte.

4. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the anode basket is ~~so designed that it is~~ the current collector.

5. (Currently Amended) Process according to ~~claims 1-4, characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein an automated supply system is provided to add tin pellets to the anode basket.